

Rice, Wallace

The Masque of Illinois



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# THE MASQUE OF ILLINOIS

BY

WALLACE RICE

---

Intended for the Use of High Schools, Colleges, and Communities  
During the Centennial Year

---

ISSUED BY THE

ILLINOIS CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

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# THE MASQUE OF ILLINOIS

## PART I—EARLIER ILLINOIS

PERSONS OF THE MASQUE (\* indicates a speaking part):

THE TWO TRUMPETERS		ROBERT CAVELIER SIEUR DE LA SALLE
PROLOGUE*		HENRI DE TONTY
ILLINOIS*		FATHER JACQUES MARQUETTE
THE PRAIRIE ( <i>boys</i> )	} THE ILLINOIS COMPANY	FATHER LOUIS HENNEPIN
THE FORESTS ( <i>girls</i> )		FATHER ZENOBE MEMBRE
THE RIVERS ( <i>boys</i> )		FATHER GABRIEL RIBOURDE
THE FLOWERS ( <i>girls</i> )		A MAIDEN*
FEAR*	} THE THREE EVIL BRETHREN	THE BRITISH OFFICER*
TYRANNY*		A BRITISH SOLDIER*
HATE*		BRITISH SOLDIERS
THE INDIAN CHIEF*		THE FRONTIERSMAN*
INDIAN BRAVES		BORDERMEN
INDIAN MAIDENS		PIONEER MAIDENS
THE FRENCH OFFICER*		VIRGINIA*
FRENCH SOLDIERS	} THE FRENCH COMPANY	LIBERTY
FRENCH WOODRUNNERS		JUSTICE
FRENCH MAIDENS		LOVE
LOUIS JOLIET		CONTINENTAL SOLDIERS
		THE THREE GREAT SISTERS

COLUMBIA\*

TWO TRUMPETERS, *the Illinois State Banner upon one, the Centennial Banner upon the other trumpet, come forth and flourish, first one, then the other, then both.*

*Comes forth* PROLOGUE, *who speaks, the TRUMPETERS remaining.*

### PROLOGUE.

Now fivescore orient pearls, of men called years,  
 Their luster lend unto a caranet,  
 Making Our Lady the more beautiful—  
 Heard ye not flourishes upon twin trumpets  
 To sound abroad her double jubilee?  
 Yet half as much again in days had gone  
 Since first she trod her path thro' perilous woods  
 Into the splendor, world illuminate,  
 Sped from great Louis's sunny throne. The slow  
 And hesitant steps before her Statehood glowed  
 We shall portary—may we thus pleasure you,

Fair ladies and good gentlemen!—telling  
 How first fair France made gay and gallant suit  
 With tripping melody along our sward,  
 Where savagery had screamed for foresome war;  
 How Britain brought brief tyranny, and how  
 The Frontiersman with free Virginia came,  
 Succoring her we celebrate today;  
 And to Columbia, with Liberty,  
 And noble Justice and enduring Love  
 For ever joined Our Lady Illinois.

[PROLOGUE retires, the TRUMPETERS  
 flourish as before, and retire.

*The rising of the curtain discovers OUR LADY ILLINOIS enthroned upon a blossomy bank, surrounded by her Company of maidens and high-flushed youth, the PRAIRIES, the FORESTS, the RIVERS, and the FLOWERS, glad in gay raiment. These dance daintily to gain her approval, severally and together, singing the while.*

#### THE PRAIRIES

As the sun shines, so spring we—  
 The prairies, the glades, and the grassy lea,  
 Spreading horizons bright in the West,  
 Glad Liberty's gift, Illinois, to thee.

#### THE FORESTS

As the wind sings, so sway we—  
 The woods, the thickets, the maple tree,  
 Blithe in the breeze and gay in the gale  
 And free, Illinois, as thy winds are free.

#### THE RIVERS

As the rain falls, so run we—  
 The rivers, the creeks, and the inland sea,  
 Sparkling with freedom, wave after wave,  
 In joy, Illinois, for thy jubilee.

#### THE FLOWERS

Sun and win and rain are we—  
 The blossoms dancing in fairy glee,  
 Sunflowers, asters, purple and gold,  
 A robe, Illinois, for glories to be.

#### THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Wood and bloom and stream are we  
 And boundless prairies so fair to see,  
 Dancing and singing for Illinois,  
 So beautiful, hopeful, dear is she!

[*Thereupon each in turn bows low  
 in acknowledgment of the praises  
 OUR LADY now bestows.*

## ILLINOIS

How bravely done, ye Prairies, finely gay  
 With grasses tall! and ye, bright Rivers, broad  
 And deep! and what, ye Forests, singing bold  
 However tempests blare, have yet not won  
 Of quick approve? and, lovely Blossoms mine,  
 Sweet children of the woodland, stream, and plain,  
 How can I more than take you to my heart?

[*The whar-whoop is heard, right.*

Alas, our peace and joy are fled; Fear cometh!

[*All crowd about to protect ILLINOIS, the PRAIRIES and RIVERS to the fore.*

[*Enter, right, FEAR, followed by the INDIAN CHIEF, his BRAVES and MAIDENS.*

[*ILLINOIS rises, showing alarm and resolution.*

## FEAR

Pale Fear, the son of Ignorance, behold!  
 Brother of Hate and Tyranny, to Greed  
 And Selfishness and Arrogance akin,  
 Young Illinois; and thou shalt walk long leagues  
 With me before our ways shall part.

## ILLINOIS

O Fear,

Troubled am I by thee, and long may be;  
 Yet shall there come to me in time the powers  
 Of wisdom, Justice, Liberty, and Love,  
 Inexorable enemies of thine.  
 I tremble not.

## FEAR

Yet must thou shrink appalled

[*To the Indian Chief.*

Lead forth thy braves to show of skill:  
 Shrill murder, horrid torture, needless death.

## THE INDIAN CHIEF

We are thy children, and our will is thine.

## ILLINOIS

Beware, thou, of our memories!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Beware!

## THE CHIEF AND BRAVES

Eagles dart  
 Thro' the sky;  
 Fierce their heart,  
 Loud their cry;  
 Red their claw,  
 Red their beak,  
 Wide their crow—  
 Hear them shriek!

Swift their flight  
 Thro' the cloud,  
 Day and night  
 Screaming loud;  
 Bright their doom,  
 Flying on  
 Thro' the gloom  
 To the dawn.

Sharp their eye,  
 Seeing far.  
 From on high  
 Falls the star—  
 Down they sweep  
 On their prey,  
 Quick to leap,  
 Strong to slay.

Lightnings flash  
 On their breath;  
 Down they dash,  
 Bringing death.  
 Eagle War,  
 Red mine ire,  
 Shouting for  
 Blood and fire!

## FEAR

Come, maidens, show that your hearts, too, are fierce.

## THE INDIAN MAIDENS

Hear our prayer, O Manitou:  
 Give them power of eye and thew,  
 Skill to plan and strength to do,  
 Hear us, hear us, Manitou!

Manitou, O hear our prayer:  
 Let them slay and never spare,  
 Blood a-spill and fire a-glare.  
 Manitou, O hear our prayer!

Manitou, they children hear!  
 For our foes the knife and spear,  
 Burning, slaughter, fear on fear.  
 Manitou, O hear! O hear!

*[The sound of bugles is heard, right.  
 The INDIAN MAIDENS pause, and  
 with the CHIEF and startled BRAVES  
 gather about FEAR.]*

## ILLINOIS

*(rising)*

Begone, O Fear, now that thy company,  
 True children of thy mind, have shown  
 Their fright.

## FEAR

Return is mine, if parted now.

[FEAR leaves, left, followed by the INDIAN CHIEF and half the BRAVES and MAIDENS.

[Enter, right, the FRENCH OFFICER and his SOLDIERS, with the flag of France.

## ILLINOIS

(to her Company)

Power is not given me in this my dawn  
To banish utterly these childish fiends;  
But I have faith this strength will yet be mine.

[The FRENCH OFFICER goes to ILLINOIS, now seated, lifts her hand gallantly and kisses it, bowing.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

My Lady Illinois, I give thee greeting.  
These thousand leagues I come, over far seas  
And mighty rivers, lakes of sweet water  
And boundless prairies, to thy loveliness.

[At the word, the ILLINOIS COMPANY salute the FRENCH, who return it. The FRENCH and remaining INDIANS then mingle.

## ILLINOIS

Bow low, my children, and give honor here.  
Thou'rt welcome, France, and far from thy fair home  
Here may'st thou find a fairer, more beloved,  
And happier home!

[Enter, right, the FRENCH WOOD-RUNNERS, who go to the FRENCH SOLDIERS. The FRENCH and remaining INDIANS form in a lane.

[Enter, right, through this, JOLIET, LA SALLE, and TONTY, and pass out, left.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

I bring thee priceless gifts:  
Here are for thee sharp eyes for honest gain,  
Wide vision for an empire vast and strong,  
And such true friendship and devotion rare,  
Honor and courage, loyalty and trust,  
As all the world shall ever wonder at:  
Brisk Joliet, La Salle the unswervable,  
And Tonty, silver-hearted, iron-handed:  
Trader, and statesman, and the faithful friend.

## ILLINOIS

Great gifts are these for every child of mine  
To have and hold. I greatly thank thee, sir.

*[She rises and with the others stands with bowed head.*

*[Enter, right, with INDIAN crucifers, thurifers, and acolytes, FATHERS MARQUETTE, HENNEPIN, MEMBRE, and RIBOURDE, who pass out, left, while the "Vexilla Regis" is sung.*

## OMNES

"Vexilla regis prodeunt,  
Fulget crucis mysterium.  
Quo carne carnis conditor  
Suspensus est patibulo.

"Arbor decora et fulgida,  
Ornata regis purpura  
Electa digno stipite,  
Tam sancta membra tangere!

"Confixa clavis viscera  
Tendens manus, vestigia  
Redemptions gratia  
Hic immolata est hostia.

"Beata cujus brachiis  
Pretium pependit sæculi,  
Statéra facta est corporis  
Prædam tulitque Tartari.

"Quo vulneratus insuper  
Mucrone diro lanceæ,  
Ut non lavaret crimine,  
Manavit unda et sanguine.

"Fundis aroma cortice,  
Vincis sapore nectare,  
Jucunda fructu fertili  
Plaudis triumpho nobili.

"Impleta sunt quæ concinit  
David fideli carmine,  
Dicendo nationibus:  
Regnavit a ligno Dens.

"Salve ara, salve victima  
De passionis gloria  
Qua vita mortem pertulit  
Et morte vitam reddidit."

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

And here the golden gift imperishable:  
High faith in one true God of love and law,  
Of mercy, meekness, charity, and hope,  
Who will, in His good time, bring Heaven to earth.

## ILLINOIS

No earthly gratitude of mine is fine  
Enough for this—I give you heavenly thanks.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

And here are other gifts; less rare, be sure,  
But still desirable: high spirits ever,  
Innocent gaiety in dance and song.  
Come, children, bring delight to eye and ear.

## THE FRENCH COMPANY

*(dancing and singing)*

Children of France on a far frontier,  
 Gaily we dance in the best of cheer,  
 Gladly we sing for the world to hear,  
 All on a mild May morning.

Far is our France and our hearts are there,  
 Yet is the Illinois country fair,  
 So shall we sing—and a fig for care!—  
 All on a mild May morning.

Round and around in a ring we go,  
 Sweet is our song as we stand a-row,  
 Merry our hearts as we dance, heigho!—  
 All on a mild May morning.

## ILLINOIS

They are most charming, sir, and glad am I  
 That such light-heartedness, such tuneful grace  
 Are yours—are mine.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

We give thee thanks, madame.

## A MAIDEN

*(entering breathlessly, right)*

My Lady Illinois, a man in scarlet,  
 With doughty followers, in on thy plains.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

The British come, madame, and we must go.

*[Half the FRENCH exeunt, left.]*

## ILLINOIS

Not yet, for far toward the rising sun  
 The hope of independence dawns. Abide  
 A while.

## THE FRENCH OFFICER

Already half my children go  
 Across the mighty river unto Spain.

*[Tumult and shouting without as the BRITISH OFFICER and his SOLDIERS march in, with the British flag of 1785.]*

*[THE ILLINOIS COMPANY gather about their Mistress as before; and the FRENCH COMPANY about their officer.]*

THE BRITISH OFFICER  
(to the French Officer)

This country now is ours, sirrah! Your flag  
You straightway hand to me, never to fly  
Above the country of the Illinois  
Again. Your flag, sir! Men, secure the flag!

[THE BRITISH SOLDIERS seize the  
French flag, the FRENCH standing  
in distress.

## ILLINOIS

Your manner is abrupt, your manners ill;  
What bring you more? I am the mistress here.  
Ah, comes a hideous being to my state!

[Enter, right, TYRANNY, crowned  
and in crimson.

## TYRANNY

I am red Tyranny, and on my head  
The symbol of anointed kings, who lay  
Upon the brow of God Himself the blood  
Wherewith my robe is crimsoned, the life-stream  
Of those who would be free.

## ILLINOIS

My hope lies east  
Toward the rising sun. What would you, sir?

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

That is for us to say, young jade. My king  
Will have his royal way with you betimes.  
Here is no dwelling save for those he trusts,  
Friends of his friend, red Tyranny. For you  
Are ours.

## ILLINOIS

Of British liberty and law  
Much has been noised abroad: and are not these  
For me and mine?

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

All that is as my king,  
His friend here, royally shall will. Hear them!

[The whar-whoop is heard without,  
right. The remaining INDIANS  
answer and rush off, right.

The savage tribes you French dealt friendly with  
I've set afoot to teach you rebels here.

[Enter HATE, in black, with FEAR.



## ILLINOIS

What frightful shape is this? And yet I knew  
Near was his coming upon such a word.

## TYRANNY

All hail, black Hate, true brother of my soul;  
Hail, pallid Fear; well are we companied!

## HATE AND FEAR

Hail, brother Tyranny, brother and friend!

## HATE

Black Hate am I, and never far from those  
Who work their will upon unwilling hearts.

## ILLINOIS

Beware, sir, of our memories!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Beware!

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

Damsel, you prate! Keep silence now! My king  
Commands—your king and mine, young Illinois.

## ILLINOIS

*(coming forward)*

Not my king, while, the rising morn beneath,  
My prairies spread their sweet, my rivers run  
Smiling down to the Gulf, my forests toss  
Untrammelled arms above me, and my flowers  
Perfume this western freedom.

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

Treason, jade,  
Rank treason, this. Seize her, my men, and make  
Her ours. All that she has shall be our king's.

*[The BRITISH SOLDIERS advance to  
do his bidding.]*

*[From all the entrances BORDERMEN  
come, bearing the Stars and Stripes,  
with the FRONTIERSMAN. The  
British pause and stare.]*

## A BRITISH SOLDIER

*(coming to Illinois)*

Believe him not, my Lady Illinois.  
Our England is not free to speak her word  
Of liberty and law. It is a foreign king  
Doth sit her throne and would be tyrant there.

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

Rebels and traitors all!

## THE FRONTIERSMAN.

Take no step more!  
 Give me your sword! Your arms, your ensign ours.  
 Give back to France her lily'd standard—now!  
 Take it, ye Frenchmen! Side by side it streams  
 In fierce alliance with our Stars and Stripes.  
 Disarm these men!

[THE BRITISH OFFICER *yields his sword, sulkily.* THE FRENCH OFFICER *regains his flag.* The BORDERMEN *take the British arms.*

## THE BRITISH OFFICER

Rebels and traitors all!

## THE FRONTIERSMAN.

My Lady Illinois, Virginia bids  
 Me render thee promise of benefits,  
 Her love and liberty and justice—gifts  
 Only less precious than the Love of God;  
 And sends you, too, this Greater Love, made free  
 At last by her: at her decree no longer  
 Church to the State is chained.

## ILLINOIS

Most joyous news!  
 Rejoice, my children, now and evermore!

[*The FRENCH and the ILLINOIS COMPANIES cheer.*

## THE FRONTIERSMAN

These minions of old Tyranny take hence  
 In chains they would have forged for us; and when  
 They're in safe keeping, come again and bring  
 Our radiant maidens.

[*While the BORDERMEN march the BRITISH OFFICER and his SOLDIERS off, left, those remaining sing "The Virginian Song."*

## ILLINOIS

Sing ye, all, with hearts  
 And voices unconstrained, of Liberty.

## OMNES

"On our brow while we laurel-crowned Liberty wear,  
 What Englishmen ought we Americans dare:  
 Through tempests and terrors around us we see,  
 Bribes nor fears can prevail o'er the hearts are free.  
 Hearts of oak are we still, for we're sons of those men  
 Who always are ready, steady, boys, steady,  
 To fight for their freedom again and again.

“Then cheer up, my lads, to your country be firm,  
 Like kings of the ocean, we'll weather each storm;  
 Integrity calls out, fair liberty, see,  
 Waves her Flag o'er our heads and her words are  
 “Be free!”  
 Hearts of oak, *etc.*

[*The BORDERMEN enter, left, with  
 the PIONEER MAIDENS, escorting and  
 cheering VIRGINIA.*

## ILLINOIS

Most welcome and thrice welcome, beloved  
 Virginia, mother of free men and great!

## VIRGINIA

Hail and all hail, my daughter Illinois;  
 And these, thy youth and gentle maidens, hail!

## ILLINOIS

Here, too, sweet mother, are the gallant French,  
 Their soldiers our allies, their children mine.

## VIRGINIA

And here their sisters and their brothers dear,  
 Thy children and mine own, the pioneers.

## ILLINOIS

Dance forth, in radiant youth and modesty,  
 All dance, to celebrate fair Freedom's day!

[*All join in dancing the Virginia  
 Reel, exuberantly.*

Noble Virginia, mother of men,  
 How fair your sunny rule after the storm!

## VIRGINIA

Sweet daughter Illinois, more storms will come  
 And greater. Know there is no peace for me,  
 For thee, for any, while black Hate survives,  
 Or pallid Fear, or crimsoned Tyranny.

## ILLINOIS

Then must I fight the long years thro'—for peace?

## VIRGINIA

The age-long fight is thine and mine, my daughter;  
 But, lest our arms grow weary, our Mistress comes.

[*Bugles blare without. Enter, left,  
 COLUMBIA, escorted by CONTINENTAL  
 SOLDIERS. All sing, standing at  
 attention.*

## OMNES

"Hail, Columbia, happy land!  
 Hail! ye heroes, heav'n-born band,  
 Who fought and bled in freedom's cause,  
 Who fought and bled in freedom's cause,  
 And when the storm of war was gone,  
 Enjoyed the peace your valor won;  
 Let independence be your boast,  
 Ever mindful what it cost,  
 Ever grateful for the prize,  
 Let its altar reach the skies.  
     Firm, united us be,  
     Rallying round our liberty,  
     As a band of brothers joined,  
     Peace and safety we shall find.

"Immortal patriots, rise once more!  
 Defend your rights, defend your shore;  
 Let no rude foe with impious hand,  
 Let no rude foe with impious hand,  
 Invade the shrine where sacred lies  
 Of toil and blood the well-earned prize;  
 While offering peace, sincere and just,  
 In Heav'n we place a manly trust,  
 That truth and justice may prevail,  
 And ev'ry scheme of bondage fail.  
     Firm, united" *etc.*

## VIRGINIA

Welcome, Columbia, mistress of our hearts!

## ILLINOIS

Columbia, more than queen, reigning thro' love!

## COLUMBIA

Welcome the day that brings these prairies to me!

## VIRGINIA

Mother of mine, I have a daughter here,  
 Our Lady Illinois, whom I would fain  
 Give to thy greater care.

## COLUMBIA

                    Gladly I take,  
 Willingly keep, this sacred gift of thine,  
 Loyal Virginia.

## ILLINOIS

                    Come, my children all;  
 Children of France, my children, too; and ye,  
 My pioneers, to make me great thro' time.  
 Fair is the season, golden every hope.

## HATE

Methinks at such a time old Europe hath  
More place for me.

## FEAR

It is our ancient home;  
Yet Slavery, our dear child, is planted here  
And surely he will beckon our return.

## COLUMBIA

But, child, what do these miscreants here? Go hence!  
What, stir you not? Sound trumpets then to call  
The Three Great Sisters with their priceless jewels.  
[*The trumpets sound.*]

## TYRANNY

We go the while, but ever shall return,  
When Justice slumbers, Liberty abates,  
Or Love withholds her smiles. Let them but nod,  
And Hate and Fear and I will stab and slay.

[*TYRANNY, HATE, and FEAR exeunt right.*]

[*LOVE, LIBERTY, and JUSTICE enter, left.*]

## OMNES

God, Who is Truth and Law,  
We bow before Thine Awe  
Here manifest.  
Welcome Thy Daughters Three,  
Speaking by Thy decree,  
Holiest, Best.

Liberty, keep us free.  
Ever we wait on thee;  
Light from thine eyes  
Floods thro' the age-long dark  
Lit by thy heavenly spark  
Gained from the skies.

Justice, thou holy one,  
Radiant as the sun  
Banishing night,

Now with thy scales and sword  
Drive from us ills abhorred,  
Thine is the might.

Love, by thy sacred smile  
Baffled is every wile  
Of fiend and foe.  
Thine is the golden wand,  
Thine the celestial bond  
Of good below.

Liberty, Justice, Love,  
Angels from Heaven above,  
We hymn your praise.  
God's Daughters shining here,  
Casting out every fear,  
Rule ye our days.

## COLUMBIA

Bring me in kindness now the starry crown  
Of Statehood for my daughter Illinois,  
While Justice, Liberty, and Love attend,  
Her sponsors evermore.

## ILLINOIS

Humbly I kneel

To these celestial visitors and friends,  
 Asking the Almighty for their constant aid  
 Thro' all the trials to be.

## COLUMBIA

Wear then this crown  
 Of twenty stars and one, and keep them bright.  
 Tho' gold be thine, scorn thou its sordid lure;  
 Tho' luxury tempt, keep thou thy temple pure;  
 Tho' great wars come, thus shall thy fame endure.

*{The crown having been brought,  
 COLUMBIA crowns ILLINOIS kneel-  
 ing with uplifted head, while  
 LIBERTY, JUSTICE, and LOVE raise  
 their hands in blessing over her.*

## OMNES

Fair Illinois,  
 Thine every joy  
 Of great endeavor!  
 Our hearts unite  
 In bonds of light  
 With thine for ever!

So shall we stand  
 One kindly band  
 In blest communion  
 Of mind and soul  
 Made glad and whole  
 In Freedom's Union!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Wood and bloom and stream are we  
 And boundless prairies so fair to see,  
 Dancing and singing for Illinois,  
 So radiant, proud, and brave is she!

(CURTAIN)

## THE MASQUE OF ILLINOIS

### PART II—ILLINOIS STATEHOOD

PERSONS OF THE MASQUE (\* indicates a speaking part):

ILLINOIS,\* COLUMBIA,\* a MAIDEN,\* the THREE GREAT SISTERS, the THREE  
EVIL BRETHERN,\* the ILLINOIS COMPANY, the INDIAN CHIEF (BLACK-  
HAWK now), the INDIAN BRAVES, the INDIAN MAIDENS, the FRONTIERS-  
MAN,\* the BORDERMEN, the PIONEER MAIDENS, as before, and in addi-  
tion the following:

THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE  
SLAVERY\*  
POLGAMYO  
REPUDIATION\*  
THE ILLINOIS COLLEGES  
CHICAGO  
AMERICAN SOLDIERS  
AMERICAN SAILORS

THE NATION, *specifically*  
ONE IN BLACK  
BELGIUM\*  
FRANCE\*  
ENGLAND\*  
SCOTLAND\*  
IRELAND  
CANADA

*Before the rise of the curtain a chorus is heard singing "Our Illinois;  
The Centennial Hymn."*

#### CHORUS

Our father's God, in thankfulness  
Thy thousand mercies we confess  
With solemn joy:  
Our prairies rich with fruitful loam,  
Our rivers singing as they roam,  
The happiness that is our home,  
Our hope, our Illinois.

How many times, Almighty God,  
Our fathers passed beneath the road  
Thy years employ!  
Grant that their faith be justified  
In us, for whom they fought and died;  
Their love for Thee our lasting pride  
And hope for Illinois.

Our fathers' God, put forth Thy might;  
Thro' Thee may we defend the right,  
The wrong destroy.

Lead us afar from greed and lust,  
Teach us our duty, make us just;  
In Thee our best, our only trust,  
Our hope for Illinois.

Great Lord, Thy law hath made us free  
And all our freedom rests on Thee,

Our stay and buoy.  
We give Thee praise for banished fears,  
For righted evils, contrite tears;  
Keep steadfast to her stainless years  
Our hope, our Illinois.

*The rise of the curtain discovers ILLINOIS upon her blossomy bank, as before. She rises and speaks.*

#### ILLINOIS

The beauty of youth is mine, and riches more than gold;  
My stalwart sons and daughters shall bring me wealth  
untold;  
Woodland and plain are mine; but better than loam and  
tree  
Stout hearts and visioned eyes to keep my people free.  
[A MAIDEN enters, right.]

#### THE MAIDEN

My Lady Illinois, a man of speech  
Most kindly, good to look upon, and fair  
And smooth of manner, would have word with thee.

#### ILLINOIS

His name, sweet maiden?

#### THE MAIDEN

Slavery his name,  
And French his origin.

#### ILLINOIS

Ill met are we,  
But, still, we must be met. Let him come to me.

[The MAIDEN ushers in SLAVERY.]

#### SLAVERY

Sweet mistress, I am come to ask thy hand.  
Long has thou known me, and a danger lurks:  
Strong men and women from our southern lands  
Pass by thy doors because thou art not mine.  
Speak the word, and make thy position sure.



## ILLINOIS

Fair is your message, but across your breast  
 I see the colors of your masters, Fear  
 And Tyranny and Hate. Summon my children!

[THE MAIDEN goes out, right, and  
 returns with the FRONTIERSMAN, the  
 BORDERMEN, and the PIONEER  
 MAIDENS.

## SLAVERY

Thou shalt have wealth and ease, fair Illinois—  
 My slaves shall toil, and thou wilt reap the gain.

## ILLINOIS

Here, sons and daughters mine, a suitor stands—  
 Slavery his name. What shall I say to him?

## THE FRONTIERSMAN

Bid him go hence, my lady.

## SLAVERY

But, dear sir,  
 How great her need of me to bring her wealth!

## ILLINOIS

You will not go without a struggle. Yet  
 Better the struggle now. I bid you go.

## SLAVERY

I will not go.

## THE FRONTIERSMAN

(threateningly)

You shall!

## SLAVERY

I shall be near  
 Should your opinion change.

## ILLINOIS

Away!

## OMNES

Away!

[They advance upon SLAVERY, and  
 take him out forcibly, returning  
 joyously to sing and dance. The  
 MAIDEN goes out with them.

## OMNES

We are the children of fair Illinois:  
 I am her girl—and I am her boy.  
 Golden our sand as it runs thro' her glass:  
 I am her lad—and I am her lass.  
 May we be faithful in seeking the truth:  
 I am her maid—and I am her youth,  
 We are the prayers for the future she prayed:  
 I am her man—and I am her maid.  
     *[They dance out, left.*  
     *[Enter the MAIDEN, right.*

## THE MAIDEN

My lady, now is mine a happier duty.  
 Thy friend, the friend of Liberty and Love  
 And Justice, General Lafayette, hath come.  
     *[Enter LAFAYETTE with the ILLI-*  
     *NOIS COMPANY, dancing and cheer-*  
     *ing, right.*

## ILLINOIS

O Lafayette, most kindly friend of man,  
 Better thy coming than the April lilies  
 That dance about thy welcome path today!  
     *[LAFAYETTE bows and goes out, left,*  
     *with the MAIDEN, the RIVERS, and*  
     *the FORESTS.*

Heavy your hands with treasure, Prairies mine,  
 And yours, fair Flowers. What have you for me!

## THE PRAIRIES

'Neath thy prairies' grassy roll  
 Behold new treasure in stores of coal.  
 Scarlet and gold their banners that spring  
 To warm, Illinois, every wintry soul.

## THE FLOWERS

Where thy blossoms once were gay  
 Behold the plowshare betakes its way.  
 Broadening acres happy with corn  
 Are thine, Illinois, in the sunlit day.

## THE PRAIRIES AND FLOWERS

Food and light and warmth are thine  
 As cold and famine their crowns resign.  
 Better the world for the terrors that flee  
 Afar, Illinois, from these gifts divine.

## ILLINOIS

Noble your gifts, my children, in their promise.  
     *[The war-whoop is heard, enter,*  
     *BRAVES and MAIDENS, who dance,*  
     *right, BLACKHAWK with the INDIAN.*

## THE INDIAN BRAVES

Eagles dart  
Thro' the sky;  
Fierce their heart,  
Loud their cry.

Lightnings flash  
On their breath;  
Down they dash,  
Bringing death.

Bright their doom  
Flying on  
Thro' the gloom  
To the dawn.

Eagle War,  
Red mine ire,  
Shouting for  
Blood and fire.

## THE INDIAN MAIDENS

Manitou, thy children hear!  
For our foes the knife and spear,  
Burning, slaughter, fear on fear,  
Manitou, O hear! O hear!

## ILLINOIS

Now have ye spread your terror thro' my lands  
Once more, as in the rolling ages past;  
And now no more these ancient hunting-grounds  
Are yours for war. Gone with the setting sun  
Your braves and maidens, and for ever gone.

*[All the INDIANS pass out slowly,  
left, with bowed heads, chanting  
sadly.]*

## THE INDIANS

Fireflies in the summer night;  
Birds a-wing for winter flight;  
Stars that dim in morning light;  
Meteors that flash from sight.

*[Enter, right, the RIVERS and FOR-  
ESTS.]*

## ILLINOIS

My Rivers and my Woodlands, bring ye gifts?

## THE RIVERS

Where thy lakes and rivers run  
Behold them joining and made as one,  
Passage fit for an empire of trade  
Is thine, Illinois, when our work is done.

## THE FORESTS

From thy woodlands' leafy trail  
Come fuel and ties for the iron rail,  
Carrying wealth to the ends of the earth  
For thee, Illinois, thro' forest and vale.

## THE RIVERS AND FORESTS

Roads on water, roads on land,  
 Binding the globe in a friendly band;  
 Strangers afar are neighboring now—  
 New worlds, Illinois, for thy kind command.

## ILLINOIS

What stores you bring, my children, from your toil!  
 How new the era such wealth ushers in!  
 Far friends become our neighbors close at hand,  
 Whom we shall nourish and their winters warm.  
 You have the thanks of all the world.

[*Enter the MAIDEN, right, followed  
 by REPUDIATION.*

## THE MAIDEN

I bring another, kind and smooth of speech.

## REPUDIATION

Repudiation is my name, and thou  
 Hast need of me, my Lady Illinois.  
 Thou art impoverished by means of these—  
     (*indicating the Rivers and Forests*)  
 Improvements, they are styled. Be rich withal.

## ILLINOIS

Treasure well earned, well used, who shall despise?

## REPUDIATION

Most true, my lady. Then dost thou deny  
 Thy lawful debts, and lo! the wealth is thine.

## ILLINOIS

Smooth-spoken sir, I see upon your garb  
 The hues of Tryanny and Hate and Fear.  
 Who follow close behind your ill advice,  
 Were't taken. I'll have none of it. Begone!

## REPUDIATION

I pity one who would be poor.

## ILLINOIS

*And I*  
 Pity more one who would be false. Begone!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Begone!

[*Exit REPUDIATION, right, passing  
 the MAIDEN, entering with POLY-  
 GAMY.*

## ILLINOIS

Ah, me! Another cometh hither.

## THE MAIDEN

My Lady Illinois, this saintly man  
In looks and speech, is named Polygamy.

## POLYGAMY

Polygamy am I, fair Illinois.  
One in a vision came to me and said:  
Not to one woman art thou bound alone;  
No following of icy piety  
Attends thy priesthood; take thou many wives.

## ILLINOIS

Brave youth, sweet maidens, what say ye to this?

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Begone! Begone!

## ILLINOIS

Aye, go. Thou wearest, too,  
The hues of Hate and Fear and Tyranny—  
Hypocrisy withal and Lustfulness  
Are thine. My children, drive him hence!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Begone!

*[They drive POLYGAMY out, right,  
and follow after, reviling.*

*[There is a distant roll of drums.*

## ILLINOIS

*(as in a vision)*

I see the embattled fields of Mexico,  
Where, staunch at Buena Vista, stand my sons  
Invincible. I see the desperate charge,  
Steadfast defense, the bold attack in turn;  
And they at Cerro Gordo are as brave.  
Ye sons of victory, hail and farewell!  
Hail and farewell, ye imperishable dead!

*[Cheerful music is heard, left,  
heralding the coming of the Illi-  
nois Colleges founded before the  
Civil War.\**

## THE MAIDEN

Here are thy powers against ignorance.  
Thou owest them much, and shalt owe more, my lady.

---

\* These include Blackburn, Chaddock, Chicago, Eureka, Hedding, Illinois College, Illinois Wesleyan University, Illinois Woman's College, Illinois State Normal University, Knox, Lake Forest, Lombard, McKendree, Monmouth, Monticello, North-Western College, Northwestern University, Shurtleff, and Wheaton.

## THE ILLINOIS COLLEGES

Born beside thy western waters  
 Are these children of thy heart,  
 Chaste Minerva's sons and daughters,  
 Who are come to bear thy part.  
 Days and nights we give to learning,  
 Ever seeking wisdom's goal,  
 That the Truth in splendor burning  
 May illuminate thy soul.

## ILLINOIS

Indeed, ye are my very dear; for Love  
 And Liberty and Justice dwell with you,  
 And your fair presence here ensureth these  
 To me. They are the soul of Truth, its essence;  
 Then hold them in your hearts against our need.

*[The ILLINOIS COLLEGES dance out,  
 left, singing as before.]*

*[There is a distant roll of drums,  
 coming nearer and nearer, with a  
 boom as of cannon.]*

## THE MAIDEN

The war is in thy very house, my lady.

## ILLINOIS

Daughter of war am I, of tears and blood,  
 Seeking peace ever—and there is no peace;  
 The fight for Liberty, for Justice, Love  
 For ever mine, as once it was foretold me.  
 How now mine eyes are bright thro' tears of pride  
 For these my children battling for the right!  
 And how my sons sweep down the South, divide  
 Our enemy, and eastward turn in triumph!

*[The ILLINOIS COMPANY, in black,  
 with hands crossed on their breasts  
 and with bowed heads, enter, right,  
 softly, and kneel, rising at the word.]*

My noble sons, my noble slain, I mourn;  
 Mourn with me, kneel and mourn my sons a while,  
 Now lift your heads, my children, seek the skies  
 And look with level eyes upon the sun.  
 For yours the deathless voice of loyalty  
 That is my Douglas: all the glory lit  
 By my indomitable Grant, tender  
 Of heart to vanquished brothers: aye, and yours  
 And mine the wistful splendor of the man  
 Who is mankind bound up in one strong soul  
 Compassionate, my Lincoln. So give praise!

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Jehovah, God of War-Hosts, Thine  
The praise for Freedom's triumph won.  
Alleluia!

His battlefield Thy holy shrine  
Where every brow shines as the sun.  
Alleluia!

Thanksgiving to Thy Holiness  
Thro' all the ages yet to be,  
Alleluia!

Wherein Thy mercy moves to bless  
The men who war to make Man free!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

## ILLINOIS

Peace, sacred peace, is mine once more. My sons,  
My warrior sons, return and beat their swords  
To plowshares. Riches vast they bring to me;  
My cities flourish, and the countryside  
Is bright with harvests. Men from every land  
Flock to my table heaped with good; and fair  
Beside our inland sea Chicago strives.

*[There is a cry of woe, right. The  
MAIDEN runs, and leads fainting  
CHICAGO to ILLINOIS, who cherishes  
her. The ILLINOIS COMPANY gath-  
er about with help and signs of pity.]*

## THE MAIDEN

Alas, my lady, but Chicago comes  
In lamentable devastation here!

## ILLINOIS

Give instant help, my children; ye are sisters.  
In one huge sweep of flame the city falls  
And perishes. Let everything I have  
Be hers and gladly given. Yet in her heart  
Beats high resolve, the blood of pioneers.

## THE MAIDEN

She murmurs steadfastly, "I will."

## ILLINOIS

*(proudly)*

She is  
My daughter. See, she cries. Help her then  
And see that she is fully comforted.

*[CHICAGO is led out, right, by the  
ILLINOIS COMPANY.  
[The lights dim a while.]*

The swift years fly with healing on their wings  
 And all is well again. Calamity  
 Courage doth coin into success. The Nations  
 Are come to honor her and me. It is  
 The natal day of our New World and all  
 Its continents have meant to humankind.

[*Enter, right, the ILLINOIS COMPANY, dancing and singing.*

#### THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

Joy and delight to the world  
 Smiles the White City impearled.  
 Blue are our waters and skies,  
 Heav'n upon earth in our eyes,  
 Loveliness high in our hearts  
 Lit by the flame of the Arts.  
 Backward the centuries roll  
 Bringing the world to the goal  
 Bright on the shores of our sea,  
 Beautiful, wonderful, free.

[*The procession of the NATIONS  
 passes, with banners; in its midst  
 ONE IN BLACK without a flag, but  
 with red, white, and black about  
 her.*

#### THE MAIDEN

What means this figure black as in disgrace,  
 My lady?

#### ILLINOIS

Know that with the world at peace  
 This bandit Nation even now conspires  
 Against all peace, and outlawed she shall stand,  
 Mischievous, miscreant, desperately doomed.

[*The procession passes. There is  
 again the roll of drums afar.*

Alas, upon a world dreaming of peace  
 Rolls out again the hideous note of war!

[*Enter, right, BELGIUM, with TY-  
 RANNY.*

#### BELGIUM

Behold me, Illinois, ravaged and tortured,  
 Yet with mine honor bright.

#### ILLINOIS

(*to Tyranny*)

And thou didst this?



## TYRANNY

Aye, madame. Broken is my plighted faith;  
 But she withstood an empire on its path  
 To conquest.

## ILLINOIS

Thou has spilled thy soul thereby.

[*Enter, right, FRANCE, with FEAR.*

LAFAYETTE follows, sadly.

## FRANCE

Behold me, Illinois, whose very name  
 Is mine, causelessly wounded, but unshamed.

## ILLINOIS

(*to Fear*)

This is thy work?

## FEAR

Aye, madame, years ago  
 I robbed her needlessly, and dread revenge.

## FRANCE

I seek no pity, but my land is free,  
 Save where the Hun hath smeared it. But I ask  
 Your justice; I am sore bestead this day.

## ILLINOIS

Justice will come to the anon; my Love  
 Is yours of old; and Liberty is ours  
 Imperishably.

[*Enter, right, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND,  
 IRELAND, CANADA, with HATE.*

## ENGLAND

Lady Illinois,  
 Because my sisters and their liberties  
 Were needlessly beset, I have made war.

## HATE

I thought her eyes close swathed and blind.  
 Some devil freed them, and she saw my face;  
 But I will have her heart to gnaw upon.

## ILLINOIS

Oh, I had hoped for peace, and thought these Three  
 Most Evil Brethren exiled from my lands.

[*There is again the cry of woe, left.  
 All pause. The MAIDEN runs out  
 and straightway returns.*

## THE MAIDEN

My lady, pitiful the word I bring:  
 These hateful Things, for all we are at peace,  
 Have dreadful murder done upon the seas.  
 Thy sons, thy daughters, aye, thy tender babes,  
 Are mercilessly slain.

## ILLINOIS

I would have peace,  
 But there can be no peace, as was foretold,  
 While such Things live and breathe. The trumpets sound.  
 New evils stout withstood, old ones return.  
 Summon my friends. The matter goes beyond  
 My sole adjudication. Sound the trumpets.

*(The trumpets sound)*

Oh, England and thy sisters here, of old  
 I loved you not, what time a king, the child  
 Of these base creatures, drove me from thy breast.  
 But heart and law and speech of me are thine;  
 As thou art free, so 'tis thy high endeavor  
 Hath made me free. Thine, too, my gratitude  
 For the swift help that sped to Belgium  
 And France.

## ENGLAND

I ask no more, yet hope for more.

## ILLINOIS

Belgium, grossly betrayed, vengeance is not  
 For me, nor can irreparable wrongs  
 Be righted; but all Man can do, do I.

## BELGIUM

You have my love, and faith that Justice dies  
 Not ever, Illinois.

## ILLINOIS

And, France, I am  
 American, but all true souls give twin  
 Allegiance, and the half my heart is thine.

## FRANCE

Thou hast two mothers, faithful daughter mine;  
Both gave thee birth; and now the other cometh.

[HATE, FEAR, and TYRANNY seize upon BELGIUM without a word and carry her out, left, as all cover their eyes in horror.

[Enter, right, COLUMBIA, with LOVE, JUSTICE, and LIBERTY, escorted by AMERICAN SOLDIERS and SAILORS, with the Flag. All join them in singing "Columbia," the Gem of the Ocean."

[As the THREE GREAT SISTERS come down, the NATIONS kneel and hold out supplicating hands.

## OMNES

"O Columbia, the gem of the ocean,  
The home of the brave and the free,  
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,  
A world offers homage to thee;  
Thy mandates make heroes assemble,  
When Liberty's form stands in view;  
Thy banners make Tyranny tremble,  
When borne by the red, white, and blue:  
When borne by the red, white, and blue—  
When borne by the red, white, and blue,  
Thy banners make Tyranny tremble,  
When borne by the red, white, and blue."

## ILLINOIS

Great Mother of free men, speak but the word  
And I, who gave my sons in myriads  
To keep thee safe and make thee whole, will give  
Again, my dearest, noblest.

## COLUMBIA

Loyal daughter,  
Our hearts are one. We are beset by foes  
Within and foes beneath the seas. I prayed  
For peace—and there was no peace. Roll the drums  
And sound the bugles. Rise, my sisters, join  
Your hands with mine. We go to war with war.

[Drums roll and bugles sound. The Flag is lifted and all stand at attention.

[FRANCE and the NATIONS join hands with COLUMBIA and ILLINOIS.

We fight until black Hate, white Fear, and blood  
 Red Tyranny are dead; and holy Love,  
 Justice enskied, and sacred Liberty  
 Rule sea and land. Come, Illinois, to war.  
 Without thee I had perished. It may be—  
 Pray God it may be!—from your splendid past  
 The future rises, with another Grant  
 More splendid, conquering a greater peace.

## ILLINOIS

Almighty God, we humbly pray again  
 For honorable victory.

## OMNES

Amen.

[*All march out, left, the ILLINOIS  
 COMPANY last, singing "Hail, Illi-  
 nois!"*]

## THE ILLINOIS COMPANY

By the Flag that's floating o'er us,  
 By our fathers' fame before us,  
 Raise your voices in the chorus,  
 Hail Illinois.

*Chorus:*

Hail, Illinois!  
 Hail, Illinois!  
 Thine the story,  
 God's the glory.  
 Hail, Illinois!

By the mem'ries that attend her:  
 Grant, the Union's bold defender,  
 Loyal Douglas, Lincoln's splendor,  
 Hail Illinois.

By her hundred years of honor—  
 Who, in all the world, outshone her?—  
 Wreathed like laurel bright upon her,  
 Hail Illinois.

By the fields her sons left gory  
 Make the past her future story,  
 On and on to greater glory  
 Hail Illinois.

*Curtain, to rise for a final tableau, showing HATE, FEAR and TYRANNY  
 prostrate, with LIBERTY, LOVE, and JUSTICE triumphant, and COLUMBIA  
 and ILLINOIS standing with clasped hands, the Stars and Stripes and  
 the Illinois Centennial Banner above them, while all join with the  
 audience in singing "The Star-Spangled Banner."*

(FINAL CURTAIN.)

















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